

## Maryland's Slow Population Growth Continues Through 2016

According to the latest release of population estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau<sup>1</sup>, Maryland's total population is 6,016,447 persons as of July 1, 2016. The estimates show that since 2013, the State's population has increased at a slower rate than the United States as a whole. The estimates also show that this trend of decelerating population growth has persisted over the last six years.

Over the past five years, net domestic outmigration increased steadily. Since 2011, over 84,800 more persons moved out than moved into Maryland from other states. The figures that make up this sum increased annually from 8,270 net out – migrants in 2011 to over 26,230 net out – migrants through 2016.

At the same time, other components of population change have been either insufficient, or inconsistent, over time, and unable to offset the increasing population losses. Net natural increase (births minus deaths) has decreased three consecutive years, and four of the last five years. A decrease in international immigration also contributes to the ongoing slowdown, having declined three of the last five years, including from 2015 to 2016.

The following are **overall highlights for the states** from the recently released annual population estimates.

- Maryland grew by 21,464 persons (0.36 percent) between July 1, 2015 and July 1, 2016. Both the numeric and percentage increase were the smallest for the State this century. (See [Chart 1](#) **Estimated Annual Total Population Change for Maryland** and [Chart 2](#) **Estimated Annual Percent Population Change for Maryland and the U.S.**)
- Maryland's numeric gain in the most recent year ranks 18<sup>th</sup> among the 50 states and the District of Columbia. This is the State's second lowest ranking since 2010.
- Maryland's percentage increase in population ranks 26<sup>th</sup> among states and state equivalents, tying it for its second lowest ranking this decade. Maryland's total population (6,016,4047 persons) ranks 19<sup>th</sup> in the United States, a ranking that has not changed in decades. (See [Table 1A](#), [Table 1B](#) and [Table 1C](#).)
- Since the 2010 Census, Maryland has grown by just over 242,660 people, or 4.2 percent. Its numeric gain over the last five plus years is the 16th largest in the United

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<sup>1</sup> Release date, December 23, 2016

States. Its percentage population gain ranks 25th. This is substantially below the overall population increase of 4.65 percent for the United States.

- Since April 1, 2010 Maryland's population has grown faster than that for all Northeastern states. Our population has also grown faster than all Midwestern states except for Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. (See [Map 1 Percent Change in Population for State.](#))
- The total population of the United States is 323,127,513 persons as of July 1, 2016. Since the 2010 Census, the country's population increased by 14,369,408 persons or 4.65 percent. Over the period, 21 state areas (mostly in the South and West Regions), experienced a higher percentage increase in population.
- The annual population change in the United States between July 1, 2015 and July 1, 2016 is 2,230,895 persons. This is the Nation's smallest net change since 2013, when the increase was 2,206,529 persons.
- The annual percentage population change between July 1, 2015 and July 1, 2016 is 0.7 percent. This is the smallest annual percent change experienced by the nation this century. Eighteen state equivalent areas currently have higher annual percent population increases than the United States as a whole. (See [Chart 1 Estimated Annual Total Population Change for Maryland and Chart 2 Estimated Annual Percent Population Change for Maryland and the U.S.](#))
- Among states, the July 1 2016 population of California is the largest at 39.25 million inhabitants. This is followed by Texas (27.9 million), Florida (20.6 million), New York (19.7 million), Illinois (12.8 million), Pennsylvania (12.78 million) and Ohio (11.6 million).
- The states with the largest numeric population gains in 2016 include; Texas (432,957), Florida (367,525), California (256,077), Washington (127,710) and Arizona (113,506) . Prior to 2016, Florida had the third largest numeric gains over the 2010 to 2014 period. By 2014 it surpassed New York's total population giving it the third largest population in the U.S. (after California and Texas).
- Since 2010, the only other changes among the United States' 10 highest state population ranks occurred between Michigan, Georgia and North Carolina. Michigan ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the United States in terms of total population in 2010. Relative to Georgia population growth, it fell to 9<sup>th</sup> in 2012, where it remained through 2013.

During 2014, Michigan's population declined relative to North Carolina, and currently ranks 10<sup>th</sup>. As of 2016, Georgia's population size ranks 8<sup>th</sup> among the states, followed by North Carolina and Michigan.

- The District of Columbia's population has expanded by 13.2 percent since 2010, tops in the United States. North Dakota (12.69 percent), Texas (10.8 percent), Utah (10.4 percent) and Colorado (10.16 percent) also experienced more than double digit percentage gains in new residents since the start of the decade.
- Utah has the highest annual percentage increase in population from July 1, 2015 through July 1 2016 (2.03 percent). Nevada at 1.95 percent, followed by Idaho (1.83 percent), Florida (1.82 percent) and Washington (1.78 percent), round out the states with the top five fastest growth rates over the most recent year. Of these five, Nevada has had one of the most noteworthy changes in its growth path in recent years.
- The Great Recession lasted 19 months, beginning in December 2007 and ending in June 2009. It was related to the financial crises of 2007 through 2008, and the United States subprime mortgage crises of 2007 through 2009.

It included the housing price bubble collapse and high unemployment in almost every state, severely impacting the ability of people to move from state to state. Since then, the Nation's economy has gradually improved.

- Prior to the Great Recession, Nevada had one of the fastest rates of population growth in the United States, but when the housing bubble collapsed, it became one of the hardest hit states. This decade, the state has gone from experiencing net domestic outmigration in 2010 and 2011, to increasing gains from domestic immigration over the last three years.

## Maryland Components of Population Change Highlights

**Maryland owes most of its population growth to international immigration.** The increase in population from international migration from July 1, 2015 through July 1, 2016 is 26,408 persons<sup>2</sup>. This is more than the total net annual population change of 21,464 persons.

While down significantly (1,064 persons or 3.9 percent) from the previous year, the current figure is the second highest since 2010, and well above annual gains in the 2000 to 2010 period.<sup>3</sup> (See [Chart 3 Estimated Net International Migration for Maryland](#).) Since 2010, Maryland has a total net gain of 161,392 persons from international immigration, accounting for nearly two – thirds of the State’s total population growth.

Maryland’s aggregate net international immigration since 2010 ranks 10<sup>th</sup> among states in the United States. States (or state equivalent areas) with larger net international immigration than Maryland over the period are California, New York, Florida, Texas, New Jersey, the Commonwealths of Massachusetts, Virginia and Pennsylvania, and Illinois. (See [Table 2](#), [Table 3](#) and [Map 2 Total International Migration for States](#).) The top five states accounted for over one-half (51.8 percent) of the nation’s total gain from international migration, while the top 10 states, accounted for over two-thirds (68.5 percent) of the United States total.

Maryland’s net international migration rate of 4.4 per 1,000 persons ranked eighth highest among all states or state equivalent areas over the April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016 period. Areas with higher net international migration rates than Maryland since 2010 include the District of Columbia, New York, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Florida, Hawaii, New Jersey and Connecticut. (See [Map 3 International Migration Rates for States](#).)

**Gains to the population from net natural increase (births minus deaths) continue to decrease in Maryland.** Over the last year, Maryland has 23,285 more births than deaths. This is 2,133 children below last year’s net natural increase, and the smallest gain since at least 2000. (See [Chart 4 Estimated Net Natural Increase for Maryland](#).)

Net natural change peaked in the July 1, 2006 through July 1, 2007 period at just over 34,200 persons and has been declining moderately since then. Most of the decline in net natural

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<sup>2</sup> The movement of U.S. military and other federal employees from overseas assignments are also reflected in the international migration estimates.

<sup>3</sup> The higher values post 2010 could be partly a function of a change in methodology by the U.S. Census Bureau.

increase is due to fewer childbirths, but there also has been an upsurge in the number of deaths, particularly over the last few years.

Births in Maryland peaked in the July 1, 2006 through July 1, 2007 period. That year 78,569 child births are reported, or 5,248 more births than the most recent year (73,321). The number of reported deaths during the July 1, 2015 through July 1, 2016 period is 50,036. This is the highest number of deaths reported over the last 15 years, and over 6,130 more deaths than the 44,352 reported during the 2006 – 2007 period. (See [Chart 5 Estimated Births and Deaths for Maryland](#).)

**Domestic out migration for Maryland is the largest in eight years.** Maryland experienced net domestic out migration of 26,232 persons during the July 1, 2015 through July 1, 2016 period. This marks the fifth consecutive year of net outflow for the State, and the largest number of net out migrants since the 2007 through 2008 period. (See [Chart 6 Estimated Net Domestic Migration for Maryland](#) and [Table 4](#).)

Since April 1, 2010, Maryland experienced a net loss of 83,517 residents through domestic emigration, and ranks 43rd among the states (where “1” is the state with the highest number of net in migrants and “51” the highest number of net out migrants).

In all, 19 states and the District of Columbia) have gains through domestic migration from April 1, 2010 through July 1, 2016, and 29 states have losses. From the beginning of the decade, the general trend is increased mobility among the resident population of states. For instance, in the 2010 through 2011 period just over 385,000 residents moved to another state. By 2013 through 2014 this flow to and from states reached nearly 607,500 persons. By the 2015 through 2016 period interstate migration included almost 811,000 movers. (See [Map 4 Net Domestic Migration for States](#).)

The largest absolute gains were fairly concentrated with seven states - Texas, Florida, Colorado, North Carolina, Arizona, South Carolina and Washington accounting for just under eighty percent (79.09 percent) of the net gains to all states. (Texas and Florida alone accounted for 48 percent of all the net gains to states.)

North Dakota, which has one of the strongest economies in the nation due to its growing oil and natural gas mining sector, has by far the highest net domestic in migration rate among states since April 1, 2010 (10.47 per 1,000 population). Colorado has the second highest in migration rate (7.38), followed by Florida (7.03), South Carolina (6.91) and the District of Columbia (6.65).

For those states which experienced net out migration since April 1, 2010, the largest losses were in New York, Illinois, California, New Jersey, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Ohio; with the

top three accounting for just under one half (49.3 percent) of all the net losses for states. ([Table 5A](#) and [Table 5B](#).)

States with the highest net domestic out migration rates since April 1, 2010 include New York (-6.93 per thousand population), followed by Illinois (-6.74), Connecticut (-6.07), New Jersey (-6.07). Alaska (-6.0).

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